Application No. 10/645,311 IDS Dated January 30, 2004 Attorney Docket No. 388-031585

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mication No.

10/645,311

Confirmation No. 7623

Applicant

Takeshi KOMORIDA et al.

Filed

:

August 21, 2003

Title

itle :

GRASS COLLECTING APPARATUS AND A LAWN

MOWER HAVING SUCH A GRASS COLLECTING

APPARATUS

Group Art Unit

3671

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement, which includes a completed Form PTO/SB/08A and one (1) copy of each reference identified therein.

This application is the U.S. application claiming priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-281438, filed September 26, 2002.

The relevance of Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 03-004714, of which an English-language abstract is enclosed herewith, is indicated on page 1, line 23 of the present application. The relevance of Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 2001-275438, for which U.S. Patent No. 6,513,312 is provided as the corresponding English-language equivalent, is indicated on page 2, lines 9-10 of the present application. The

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 30, 2004.

Lori A. Fratangelo
(Name of Person Mailing Document)

Signature

1/30/2004 Date)

{W0102851.1}

Page 1 of 2

relevance of WO 92/13438 is indicated in the corresponding English-language abstract on the face of the reference. EP 0 524 299 contains the corresponding claims of WO 92/13438 in the English language.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, as it is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. However, should an Office Action on the merits issue prior to the mailing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

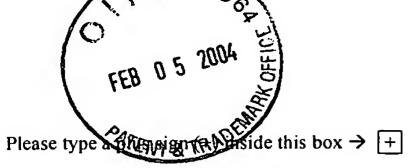
Russell D. Orkin, Reg. No. 25;363

Attorney for Applicants 700 Koppers Building 436 Seventh Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818 Telephone: (412) 471-8815 Facsimile: (412) 471-4094

E-mail: webblaw@webblaw.com





Approved for use through 10/31/2001. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form				Complete if Known			
INFORM	IATION I	DISCLOS	URE	Application Number	10/645,311		
STATEN	IENT RY	APPLIC	ANT	Filing Date	August 21, 2003		
O I A I LIV				First Named Inventor	Takeshi KOMORIDA et al.		
(use as	many sheets as ne	cessary)		Group Art Unit	3671		
	•	•		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	388-031585		

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ²		U.S. PATENT DOCUM Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		6,050,072	B1	Chabrier et al.	4/18/00	
				·		
<u> </u>						
	<u> </u> 					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication	Pages, Columns, Lines,	
Initials		Office ³	Number⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Applicant of Cited Document	of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		WIPO	WO 92/13438		Marc DELERY et al.	08/20/92		abstract
		Japan	03-004714	A2	Maida AKIRA	1/10/91		partial
	1	Japan	2001-275438		Shoshi ISHIMORI et al.	10/9/01		
			·					
								
			•					

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.